

Appl. No. 10/023,373
Reply to Office Action of August 11, 2005

IN THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the above identified patent application.

1. (Amended) A method for identifying and registering a vehicle, comprising:
receiving and storing vehicle identification and registration information pertaining to the vehicle in a remote control unit;
comparing the information stored in the remote control unit with data stored in the vehicle; and
displaying at least a portion of the vehicle identification and registration information on an electronic license plate.
2. (Original) A method according the claim 1 wherein said receiving includes downloading vehicle identification and registration information from an authorizing agency's database to a customer's personal computer.
3. (Original) A method according the claim 2 wherein said downloading includes transmitting the vehicle identification and registration information to the personal computer over the Internet.
4. (Original) A method according the claim 3 further including transmitting credit card information to the authorizing agency to pay a fee associated with receiving the vehicle identification and registration information.
5. (Original) A method according the claim 1 wherein said comparing includes transmitting the vehicle identification and registration information to the vehicle to replace the data stored in the vehicle if the vehicle identification and registration information is new.

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6. (Original) A method according to the claim 1 wherein said comparing includes unlocking at least one door in the vehicle if the vehicle identification and registration information matches the data stored in the vehicle.

7. (Original) A method according to the claim 6 wherein said comparing includes unlocking an ignition system of the vehicle if the vehicle identification and registration information matches the data stored in the vehicle.

8. (Original) A method according to the claim 5 further comprising updating the portion of the vehicle identification and registration information being displayed on the electronic license plate if the vehicle identification and registration information is new.

9. (Currently Amended) A ~~vehicle~~ system for storing identification and registration information on a vehicle, the system comprising:

a remote control unit for receiving and storing identification and registration information pertaining to said vehicle;

at least one computer on said vehicle for receiving the identification and registration information from said remote control unit and for storing the identification and registration information; and

an electronic license plate coupled to said computer for displaying at least a portion of the identification and registration information.

10. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 9 wherein said remote control unit is ~~an~~ a FOB.

11. (Original) A system according to claim 9 wherein said remote control unit is a smart card.

12. (Original) A system according to claim 9 further comprising an interface unit on the vehicle for communicating with said remote control unit.

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13. (Original) A system according to claim 12 wherein said interface unit communicates with said remote control unit over wireless link.

14. (Original) A system according to claim 13 wherein said interface unit is a transponder.

15. (Original) A system according to claim 9 wherein said at least one computer includes a comparator for comparing vehicle identification and registration information being received from said remote control unit with that stored in said at least one computer for updating said at least one computer if the vehicle identification and registration information is new.

16. (Original) A system according to claim 10 further comprising a smart chip in said FOB.

17. (Original) A system according to claim 16 wherein said FOB is a keyfob.

18. (Original) A system according to claim 11 further comprising a smart chip in said smart card.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Original) A system according to claim 9 wherein said electronic license plate comprises:

- a light emitting diode back panel; and
- a liquid crystal display front panel.

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21. (New) An identification and registration information system for use on a vehicle, comprising:

a key FOB for receiving, storing, and transmitting identification and registration information pertaining to the vehicle;

at least one computer deployed on the vehicle for wirelessly receiving and storing information transmitted from said keyfob; and

an electronic license plate mounted on the vehicle and coupled to said computer, said license plate for displaying at least a portion of the information stored in said computer.